

## *Panorama 1453 History Museum*

*There are 30 panoramic museums throughout the world. These are made to commemorate important historical events.*

*A picture without boundaries, 360 grades of landscape, located in an area of 3000 sqm. The basic feature of this picture is its 3D impression. To ensure this 3D effect, the watcher is allowed to look the picture at a minimum distance of 14 m.*

*650 sqm of the picture is virtually 3D, displaying imitations of cannons, gun carriages, powder kegs. The 2350 sqm part adjoins this. A detailed work of art with man figures starting at virtual size, and shrinking in size, as they distance off to the horizon 10.000 figures are drawn in this artwork.*

*Among them, The Panorama of Napoleon's War in Waterloo, Napoleon's War in Moscow, the Plevne War Panorama and the Mesdag Panorama are to mention.*

*Most of them are done in the 19th century by the oil painting technique. Some of these museums are in vertical, others in horizontal half panoramic order.*

*What differs the Istanbul Panoramic Museum from others in the world, is its full panorama in vertical, as well, in horizontal order. This means the sky dome is also painted above. The picture is without boundaries. If you see a picture with boundaries, you can easily notice how far away it stands from you. But here, the visitor will not be able to grasp the real dimensions of the artwork. As visitors enter the platform, they have a period of amazements for 10 seconds; because they feel, as if they have come out to a new, open-air landscape.*

### *From Topkapı Terminal to Panorama 1453*

*The place where the Thrace Bus Terminal stood 14 years ago is now where the Topkapı City Park stands today. When you look to the left, you see the walls of Edirnekapı, and, looking straight across are the Topkapı Walls, the gate through which the first Turkish soldier entered Constantinople. Turning to the right, you can see Silivrikapı. You can witness Sultan Mehmed II's acquiring the name of Fatih and totally experience the conquest of Istanbul.*

### *Characteristics of the museum*

*Think of a 360-degree painting whose frame is in a 3,000-square-meter area without boundaries. The basic characteristic of the picture is its three-dimensional effect. In order to achieve the three-dimensional effect, the viewer looks at the painting from a platform 14 meters away. The 650-meter square area of the painting is truly three dimensional, and in the area there are imitations of the cannonballs used in the fight, gun carriages and gunpowder kegs. The two-dimensional painted area, which is 2,350 square meters, begins immediately behind the three-dimensional*

*section. The very detailed work begins with the enlarged figures and works delicately with every detail as it the figures become smaller toward the horizon. The number of figures in the work is around 10,000.*

*In the world there are at present nearly 30 panorama museums. Panoramic museums generally have been built in order to depict important events in history. The most important museums of this kind are the Battle of Waterloo Panorama, the Crimean War Panorama, which shows the Ottoman-Russian War, the Defense of Plevne [Bulgaria] Panorama and the Mesdag Panorama, a panorama painted by Hendrik Willem Mesdag in Holland. Most of these panoramas were made in the 1800s in the places where the events occurred with the use of oil painting techniques. Some of the museums are half-panoramic, and some are horizontal, while others are perpendicular.*

*The picture in Istanbul's panoramic museum is both horizontal and perpendicular. The display is panoramic on every side. The sky also encloses the upper portion of the painting as a continuous dome. The painting has no frame and no boundaries. If you see a painting with a frame and a boundary you cannot awaken a feeling of such depth and three-dimensionality; if you can see the frame or the border, you understand just how far it is from you.*



*When you first look at the painting, you will not be able to grasp the true dimensions of the work. The moment you reach the platform, you will suffer shock for at least 10 seconds. This condition is the surprise at not being able to find the references, which provide the reality of the painting and*

*its dimensions and the points a viewer usually relies on like the beginning and the end. Here, where the viewer enters a closed space, the feeling of having again arrived at a three-dimensional, external space awakens.*



*As for the technical information about the museum, the external diameter of the dome is 40 meters, the internal diameter is 38 meters, the distance from the platform in every direction is 40 meters, the height from the ground to the top of the dome is 20 meters, the platform's dimension is 38 meters, the three-dimensional scale model area is 650 square meters, the two-dimensional painting area is 2,350 square meters square and the total exhibition space is 3,000 square meters. The distance between the three-dimensional exhibition space and the dome is four meters. There are 1,304 paintings and 10,000 figures in the museum. The complete half circle provides special acoustics.*

*Eight artists worked intensively on the project, which was first started by the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality in 2005. The person behind the idea of the painting is Hasim Vatandaş who coordinates the project. This museum, in which Ramazan Erkut (background), Yasar Zeynalov (painter responsible for the figures), Oksana Legka (painter), Ahmet Kaya (storyboard), Hasan H. Dincer (computer operator), Atilla Tunca (scale model) and Murat Efe (computer expert) worked, shows openly how successful Turkish artists can be when the opportunity is presented.*

*The "2010 European Culture Capital" title, which Istanbul shares with the cities of Essen in Germany and Pécs in Hungary, will provide the city with many permanent additions in the cultural and social fields.*



## *Cultural District of Turkish World*

*Metropolitan Municipality of Istanbul established a park called Topkapı Cultural District of Turkish World.*



*The park hosts some houses, crafts and exhibitions reflecting the culture of Turkish countries such as Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC), Tatarstan and the Balkans. It is also being considered as a bridge of communication and culture among Turkish countries in Central Asia and all around the world. In the park, there is Zinnet Restaurant where you can taste Central Asian cuisine.*



*The restaurant, run by an Uighur family from the city of Urumqi (Eastern Turkıstan) in western China, is inside one of the buildings of Kultur Park's Turkic republic complex and has an attractive feature.*

*The **fasıl** is a suite in Ottoman classical music.*



*It is similar to the Arabic nawba and waslah. A fasıl generally includes movements such as takşim, peşrev, şarkı, beste, qar, ağır semâ'î, yürük semâ'î, gazel and saz semâ'î, played continuously without interludes and interconnected through aranağme arrangements.*

*True Fasıl is a musical act distinct from the commercialized performance of oriental pop and folk songs found at a meyhanes and taverns, which have come to be also referred to by the same name.*